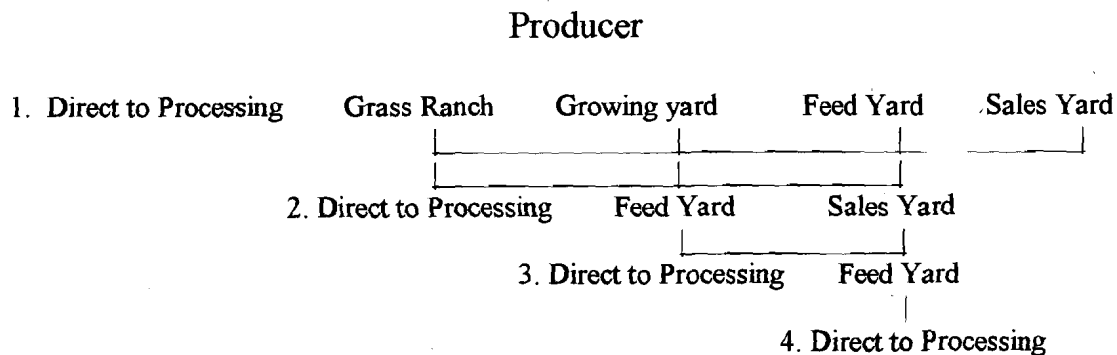


June 28, 2005

USDA
APHIS
Station 3C71
4700 River Road Unit 118
Riverdale, MD 20737-1238

To Whom It May Concern:

95 % of all cattle produced in the U.S. will fall under the following move chart. Note there are only four moves involved in the entire production process.



While animal I.D. is a must in this business, we need to look at this chart and make a plan that not only fits our pocket book, but solves potential problems facing our industry in the future.

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1st I don't think we can afford to track every individual movement

2nd We don't need a government database that holds that kind of information.

3rd When you only have four moves tracing forward and backward at the same time would give you almost immediate information.

4th If we understand the above principals then it becomes evident the government needs to push for 100% Animal I.D. Pick a system of A.I.N. that could potentially produce 100% of participation.

5th If the animals are identified then they are traceable. I believe if we pick a system now we could have 85% participation by 2008.

6th The government needs two databases.

1. To record the distribution of I.D. numbers so the U.S.D.A. knows who got the number originally.
2. The database that numbers can be terminated in.

7th With the first database we can track animals forward and backwards, however tracking backwards does not require the use of the database. Example: Disease at a packing plant you know where they came from immediately. Only a slow incubating disease would require the use of the database in tracing animals backwards. Under those conditions, it would be used to trace backward and forward at the same time.

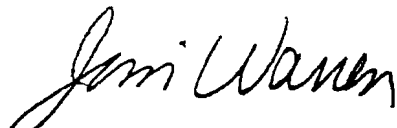
8th The infrastructure to record movement of A.I.N. cattle is already in place. Dealer cattle sales, video sales, internet sales and auction markets are already required to keep records by the P & S Act. To include A.I.N numbers would just be a small modification of that act.

9th Direct sales to feed lots and packers by producers would be the only moves that would not be recorded. However, these moves would be limited to one or two moves making them much easier to trace.

We are recommending a voluntary animal identification program based on the facts in this letter. We feel with total industry support for a voluntary A.I.N. program we could potentially have 85% of our cattle tagged by 2008. Our goal should be to have 100% compliance by 2010.

We also feel we need to have close to the 85% number of cattle A.I.N identified by 2008. If a voluntary program is not successful in accomplishing that goal, then we would support mandatory A.I.N. identification starting 2009.

Sincerely,



Jim Warren